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Application No. 09/749,084
Amendment filed with RCE

Customer No. 01933

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE CLAIMS

Independent claim 21 has been amended to clarify that the transfer destination (to which data within the specified arbitrary part of the operation target is transferred) is a retrieve server, and to positively recite receiving a retrieve result corresponding to the data transferred to the retrieve server, from the retrieve server. In addition, independent claim 21 has been amended to recite that the retrieve result received from the retrieve server may be utilized as a next operation target. Independent claims 30 and 43, moreover, have been amended in a manner similar to claim 21. See the disclosure throughout the specification and drawings, including, for example, Figs. 21-27, and, for example, paragraph [0013] of the publication of the application. See also now canceled claims 37, 39, 41 and 42.

Still further, new independent claim 57 has been added to more specifically recite that data within the specified arbitrary part of the operation target is transferred to a search engine when the coordinates are judged to be within the specified arbitrary part, so as to perform a search via the search engine,

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and that the results of the search performed via the search engine are then received and may be used as a next operation target.

Yet still further, new claims 51-56 have been added to recite additional disclosed features of the present invention, depending from independent claims 21, 30 and 43.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims and the addition of claims 51-57 be approved and entered.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 21, 24-26, 28, 33-35, 37, 39 and 41-50 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of combinations of Microsoft Windows NT ("Windows") and USP 5,418,950 ("Li et al"), USP 5,276,795 ("Hoeber"), USP 6,583,797 ("Roth"), Microsoft Word 2000 ("MS Word"), USP 5,781,192 ("Kodimer"), "Google Groups" ("Tim"), and *The Mac Observer* ("Jalby"). These rejections, however, are respectfully traversed with respect to the claims as amended hereinabove.

The Examiner has cited Windows for the disclosure of selecting and transferring data. Specifically, the Examiner points to the feature of Windows whereby, in the "Windows Explorer" view, files or folders can be selected (Figure 1, Element 1, cited by the Examiner) and then by using a "drag-and-

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drop" operation with the pointer of a mouse, the files or folders can be transferred to a new folder (Figure 2, Element 2, cited by the Examiner).

The Examiner acknowledges that Windows does not disclose performing a single event with an input device to transfer specified data in the operation target or that a beginning position of the input pointer on a display screen at a beginning of the single event and an end position of the input pointer on the display screen at an end of the single event are the same. For this reason, the Examiner has cited Li et al to supply the missing teachings of Windows.

It is respectfully submitted, however, that Windows as cited by the Examiner cannot be modified such that "a beginning position of the input pointer on a display screen at a beginning of the single event and an end position of the input pointer on the display screen at an end of the single event are the same" in the manner of the present invention.

That is, it is respectfully pointed out that it is inherent in the operation of a drag-and-drop operation as cited by the Examiner that the beginning position and the end position of the input pointer are different. If the beginning and end positions of the input pointer were made to be the same, then no drag and drop operation could be performed, and the transferring of data in Windows as cited by the Examiner could not be performed.

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It is respectfully submitted, therefore, modifying Windows as suggested by the Examiner to achieve the feature of the claimed present invention whereby the beginning position of the input pointer on a display screen at a beginning of the single event and an end position of the input pointer on the display screen at an end of the single event are the same would render the drag-and-drop data transfer feature of Windows unworkable. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's suggested modification of Windows is not proper. (See MPEP 2143.01 V, titled THE PROPOSED MODIFICATION CANNOT RENDER THE PRIOR ART UNSATISFACTORY FOR ITS INTENDED PURPOSE).

As recognized by the Examiner, according to Li et al, the text of a SELECT statement can be copied to the FULLSELECT text pane by clicking once on the SELECT statement.

It is respectfully pointed out, however, that Li et al merely discloses transferring the entirety of a given kind of object into a specific location, and that Li et al does not disclose, teach or suggest the selection of an arbitrary part of an object or the transferring of data of the arbitrary part of the object. It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that Li et al is not applicable to Windows (Windows Explorer) as cited by the Examiner, which discloses selecting a group of files and transferring dragging them to a destination that is not predefined.

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That is, as recognized by the Examiner in the citation from Li et al, this reference discloses a small number of operations to be performed with a SELECT statement: a double-click opens detailed definition; a single-click copies the text of the select statement to a specific location of the FULLSELECT text pane (to use as a "building block" of a FULLSELECT statement (column 6, lines 38-40); and a drag-and-drop operation to a trash can deletes the SELECT statement.

By contrast, Windows (Windows Explorer) as cited by the Examiner discloses a large number of possible copy locations for the selected folders/files. See the Examiner's "Element 2" in Fig. 1 of the cited portion of Windows.

It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that the small number of operations suggested by Li et al is not applicable to the cited materials from Windows, which gives no indication as to a pre-determined location where folders should be transferred. Accordingly, the drag-and-drop transfer instruction already taught by Windows is the effective form of instructing the transfer of data. And it is respectfully submitted that there is no given predetermined destination to which files are transferred in Windows, in contrast to the FULLSELECT text pane of Li et al that is the target of the single-click transfer operation.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that there would be no motivation to substitute the drag-and-drop technique already

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disclosed by Windows with the transfer instructions taught by Li et al.

The Examiner has cited Tim, moreover, for the disclosure of transferring data to a retrieve server.

It is respectfully submitted, however, that like the other modifications to Windows proposed by the Examiner, Tim is not applicable to the features of Windows cited by the Examiner.

Tim discloses highlighting text and clicking a button at a different location on the screen to perform a Google search based on the highlighted text. As applied to Windows, Tim would suggest performing a Google search based on the folders highlighted according to the Examiner's interpretation of Windows. This application of Tim to Windows is therefore clearly not a reasonable combination.

Still further, it is respectfully pointed out that according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 21, 30 and 43 and new independent claim 57, the retrieve (search) result may be utilized as a next operation target, so that sequential retrieval may be performed based on the retrieve (search) result. And it is respectfully submitted that this feature of the claimed present invention is also not disclosed, taught or suggested by the cited references.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Windows, Li et al and Tim, consistent with the fair teachings

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thereof, are not properly combinable to achieve the features of the claimed present invention, and it is respectfully submitted that the present invention as recited in independent claims 21, 30, 53 and 57, and dependent claims 26, 28, 35 and 51-56, clearly patentably distinguishes over all of the prior art of record, taken singly or in any combination, under 35 USC 103.

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Entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

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